

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending. Claim 1 is amended herein. Support for the amendments is at least found at paragraph [0027] of the specification and as detailed below.

Applicants' Response to the Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saiki (US 2002/0075428) in view of Chen (US 2004/0167260) and Deyrup (US 3,318,856).

In response thereto, applicants respectfully submit that the present invention as now claimed is not obvious in light of the combination of references for at least the reason that the combination does not provide for all the claimed features, nor is there any reason whereby a skilled artisan could derive the present invention.

Specifically, the combination of Saiki, Chen and Deyrup at least fails to provide for the feature of parent claim 1 that the crosslinking agent is mixed in the range of more than 30 parts by weight and not more than 46 parts by weight relative to 100 parts by weight of the polyvinyl alcohol-based resin.

In the present invention, use of the crosslinking agent in the above-mentioned mixing rate range improves the Water Resistance and pH values of 2.2 to 4.3 gives a satisfactory Pot Life.

In regard to the disclosures of Saiki, the reference describes the mixing rate of the crosslinking agent only in the Examples section which requires a rate outside of the claimed

range. Chen describes a polyvinyl alcohol-based resin, but does not describe incorporation of an acetoacetyl group. Deyrup describes a polyvinyl alcohol but does not describe incorporation of an acetoacetyl group.

Further, there is no reason whereby a skilled artisan could derive the present invention based on the combined teachings of Saiki, Chen and Deyrup. While Saiki is directed to a plate adhesive, Chen relates to a binder for glass fiber and Deyrup calls for the gelation of polyvinyl alcohol. There is no manner whereby a skilled artisan would derive from these three distinct teachings all the aspects of the claimed invention.

Wherefore, applicants respectfully submit that the present invention as now claimed is not obvious in light of the combined disclosures of Saiki, Chen and Deyrup.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saiki (US 2002/0075428) in view of Chen (US 2004/0167260) as applied to claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 8-11 above, and further in view of Sugino (US 2003/01 37732).

Applicants respectfully submit that by addressing the rejection of parent claim 1 as detailed above, likewise the rejection of claim 7 should be considered addressed by nature of its dependency.

Application No.: 10/583,990
Art Unit: 1794

Amendment under 37 CFR §1.111
Attorney Docket No.: 062622

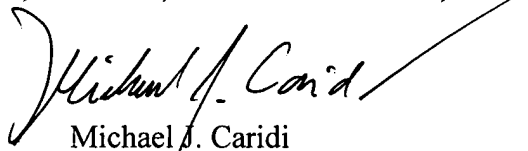
In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael J. Caridi", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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